

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back, everyone. We hope you have all had a refreshing July break and are all set for Term 3. Term 2 was busy with, among other things, the three-way conferences and our Matariki evening. We are looking forward to an equally exciting and busy programme in Term 3.

Dates for your diary:

This term, we have some special events happening:

- **Tuesday 22nd July** - Year 3-8 Swimming Sports (check Hero Posts for more details in the next couple of days)
- **Friday 1st August** - Year 3 and 4 Hui
- **Thursday 18th September** - Akau Tangi Sports Day

Changes in Staffing

Jessie Gregory will be going on Maternity leave, and her last day will be August 1st.

We welcome Matt Churchouse, who will be teaching in Room 1. Jayne Carey and Louise Noble will be the joint team leaders for Years 3 and 4.

Conference Goals

Thank you for the valuable three-way conferences held at the end of last term. We will support the children in achieving their goals set during the conferences, and we know that you will also support your child with these at home. These goals have been added to the end of the conference agendas that we shared on Hero, for your reference.

If you still have your child's X-file, please ensure that the final page is completed and it is returned to school ASAP.

Integrated Studies:

Our primary focus in the term will be on an integrated Social Science and Health unit called "The power of us". We will consider the question: How do we best care for ourselves and others? As part of this unit, we will be conducting wellbeing lessons focused on the Zones of Regulation and the Pause, Breath, Smile approach. Life Education will be visiting Seatoun School in Weeks 5 and 6. Students in Years 3 and 4 will learn about making good decisions and the impact of their choices.

Teamwork will also be a focus throughout this unit. One way we will focus on this is through team sports. At the end of the term, on Thursday, the 18th of September, we will take a trip to the Akau Tangi Sports Centre for a sports day. Closer to the date, we will put out a call for parent helpers.

School Values

This term, we will focus on **Manaakitanga, how we show respect, support and kindness to each other**. We will share and discuss what this value means to us and consider how we can embody manaakitanga in our daily lives. Please follow this up at home.

Extension Programmes - This term, children will participate in gymnastics and Racket sports as part of the PE program with Mr Finnigan. Please check the weekly timetable on Monday (which is distributed via Hero) and ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear. Please no dresses, skirts or Crocs.

Reading Cafe

This term, Rooms 1, 2 and 4 will have a Reading Cafe. Parents are invited to come in and celebrate reading and connection with their child. They are held in the school library from 8:45 to 9:15 am. Please see the dates below.

- Room 1 - Wednesday 30th July (Week 3)

- Room 2 - Wednesday 6th August (Week 4)
- Room 4 - Wednesday 20th August - (Week 6)

Interchange

We will be starting a new round for our Interchange programme on Monday afternoons. We require parent help with cooking. When your child participates in a cooking lesson, a separate note will be sent home via HERO regarding this. If any parents are interested in helping with cooking, please contact Louise Noble (louise.noble@seatoun.school.nz).

Home Learning

Each week, when the children bring home their Home Learning Books, there is a list of reminders (for both parents AND children) at the bottom of the Home Learning sheet. Please review the reminders at the bottom of the sheet with your child about upcoming school events or regular reminders they need to keep in mind. We are attempting to make the children more independent with this, but please help your child with a routine to ensure that they practise Basic Facts and Spelling, fill in the Reading Log daily, and bring their Home Learning book to school each Thursday.

Steeple Rock Challenges

Many children have chosen to take up the Steeple Rock Challenges. We all enjoy seeing and hearing about what the children have been doing at home, and it is fantastic to see the confidence that learners demonstrate when presenting. To earn a Steeple Rock badge, Year 3's must complete seven challenges and Year 4's must complete eight. Students need to remember their Steeple Rock booklets when presenting, in order to get the challenge signed off. All Steeple Rock Challenges must be completed by the end of Term 3.

Required Items for school

- Clothing: We try to get the children outside whenever possible, even in cold weather, so please ensure your child has a warm top and a waterproof jacket each day.
- Lunches: A reminder that we encourage the children to bring litterless lunches to reduce the amount of litter in our environment.
- Drink bottles: Please ensure your child has a named drink bottle each day.
- Stationery: A number of students are missing stationery items. This makes teaching and learning difficult. Please check with your child if they are missing anything.

We are looking forward to a wonderful term, and thank you in advance for your support. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or want more information.

Ngā mihi,

Jessie Gregory, Matt Churchouse, Sidney Spencer, Jayne Carey, Marion Hair, Gill Billingsley and Louise Noble.